CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1   1.   A telecommunications assignment system, comprising:

2   assignment logic operable to assign a plurality of telecommunications

3   equipment and ports to a plurality of network elements;

4   collection logic operable to receive assignments from the assignment

5   logic and store the assignments in a database;

6   graphical user interface logic operable retrieve assignments from the

7   database, and to display the assignments to a user in a graphical format which

8   includes displaying the telecommunications equipment in a graphical format

9   substantially similar to a physical construction of the telecommunications equipment.

1   2.   The system of claim 1, wherein the graphical user interface logic is

2   further operable to display the plurality of network elements in a graphical format

3   substantially similar to a physical construction of the network element.

1   3.   The system of claim 1, wherein the graphical user interface logic is

2   operable to provide the graphical format to a remote client on a computer associated

3   with the user over a network.

1   4.   The system of claim 3, wherein the remote client is a web browser

2   operable to view any of a plurality of web formats.

1   5.   The system of claim 3, wherein the remote client is a

2   telecommunications assignment system application.

1   6.   The system of claim 1, wherein the assignment logic is operable to

2   remove assignments, add assignments, remove cards, and add cards on the

3   telecommunications equipment.

1   7.   The system of claim 6, wherein the assignment logic is operable to

2   track cards installed into telecommunications equipment.

1   8.   The system of claim 1, wherein the database is a centralized database

2   which is further operable to store telecommunication equipment and network element

3   graphical format configurations.

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1   9.   A method of assigning telecommunications equipment, comprising:

2   providing a graphical user interface to a user, the graphical user

3   interface comprising a plurality of telecommunications equipment and network

4   elements which are displayed to the user in a format substantially similar to the

5   physical construction of the telecommunications equipment, the graphical user

6   interface being further operable to allow the user to make telecommunication

7   equipment assignments;

8   receiving telecommunications equipment assignments from the user

9   via the graphical user interface; and

10   storing the telecommunications equipment assignments received from

11   the user in a database for later retrieval.

1   10.   The method of claim 9, wherein the format for the telecommunications

2   equipment and network elements display are stored in the database with the

3   telecommunications equipment assignments.

1   11.   The method of claim 9, further comprising:

2   providing the graphical user interface to the user over a network to a

3   remote client associated with the user.

1   12.   The method of claim 11, further comprising using a web browser as

2   the remote client, the web browser being operable to view any of a plurality of web

3   formats.

1   13.   The method of claim 11, further comprising using a

2   telecommunications assignment application as the remote client.

1   14.   The method of claim 9, wherein the graphical user interface is operable

2   to allow the user to remove cards, add cards, remove assignments, and add

3   assignments on the telecommunications equipment.

1   15.   The method of claim 14, wherein graphical user interface is further

2   operable to allow the user to change plug-in cards installed into the

3   telecommunications equipment.

1   16.   The method of claim 9, wherein the database is a centralized database

2   which is operable to provide assignment information and display information to the

3   user.

1   17.   A computer readable medium having a program for assigning

2   telecommunications equipment, the program operable to perform the steps of:

3   providing a graphical user interface to a user, the graphical user

4   interface comprising a plurality of telecommunications equipment and network

5   elements which are displayed to the user in a format substantially similar to the

6   physical construction of the telecommunications equipment, the graphical user

7   interface being further operable to allow the user to make telecommunication

8   equipment assignments;

9   receiving telecommunications equipment assignments from the user

10   via the graphical user interface; and

11   storing the telecommunications equipment assignments received from

12   the user in a database for later retrieval.

1   18.   The program of claim 17, wherein the format for the

2   telecommunications equipment and network elements display are stored in the

3   database with the telecommunications equipment assignments.

1   19.   The program of claim 17, further comprising:

2   providing the graphical user interface to the user over a network to a

3   remote client associated with the user.

1   20.   The program of claim 19, further comprising using a web browser as

2   the remote client, the web browser being operable to view any of a plurality of web

3   formats.

1   21.   The program of claim 19, further comprising using a

2   telecommunications assignment application as the remote client.

1   22.   The program of claim 17, wherein the graphical user interface is

2   operable to allow the user to remove ports, remove assignments, and create alarms on

3   the telecommunications equipment.

1   23.   The program of claim 22, wherein graphical user interface is further

2   operable to allow the user to change plug-in cards installed into the

3   telecommunications equipment.

1   24.   The program of claim 17, wherein the database is a centralized

2   database which is operable to provide assignment information and display information

3   to the user.